



Directorate of
Intelligence

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The USSR Presidency

A Reference Aid

**CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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1999**

*LDA 90-12598
April 1990*

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The

USSR

Council of the Federation

The Council of the Federation ensures that the USSR republics comply with international treaties; it devises measures to implement the nationalities policy, submits recommendations to the USSR Supreme Soviet Council of Nationalities on resolving specific interethnic conflicts, and ensures that the republics participate in resolving questions of nationwide significance. The Council is headed by the USSR president. The "supreme state official" from each of the 15 republics (whose title may vary depending on the republic) is an ex officio member of the Council of the Federation. Although they are not members of the Council, the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the chairmen of its two chambers, as well as the "supreme state officials" from autonomous republics, oblasts, and okrugs, are entitled to participate in the Council's sessions.

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USSR President

President

The presidency, which was created in March 1990, is the new office of the chief of state. In accordance with the constitution, the president is elected by popular vote; Mikhail Gorbachev, who was elected indirectly by the Supreme Congress of People's Deputies (CPD). The president can serve a maximum of two five-year terms and is reelected by the CPD only if he is reelected by the CPD or USSR laws. In addition to several constitutional powers, the president has the right to:

... (subject to legislative confirmation) and remove top government officials, excluding the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

... to sign and suspend orders and decrees of the Council of Ministers.

... to declare martial law or a state of emergency, subject to a confirmation vote by the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

USSR Presidential Council

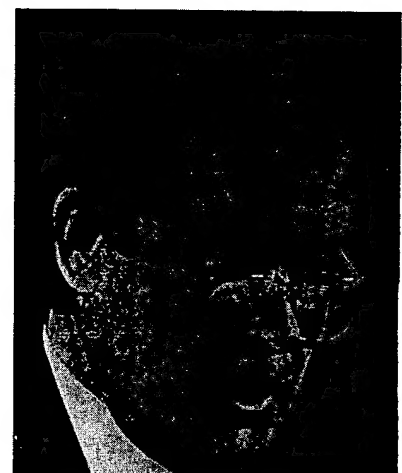
The Presidential Council is responsible for implementing domestic and foreign policy. Council members are appointed and removed by the president.* The chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet is not a member, but he can be elected to the Council.



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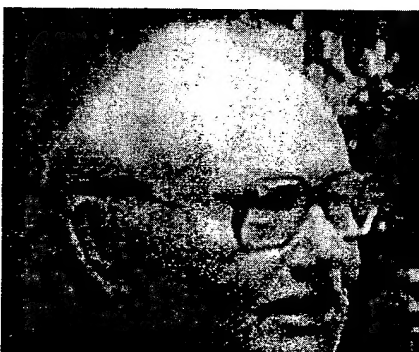
Chingiz Torekulovich Aytmatov

Well-known writer; chairman, Kirghiz Writers Union, since 1986... chairman, Culture Commission, USSR Supreme Soviet, since June 1989... ethnic Kirghiz... born December 1928.



Vadim Viktorovich Bakatin

Minister of Internal Affairs since October 1988... former regional party official... ethnic Russian... born 1928.



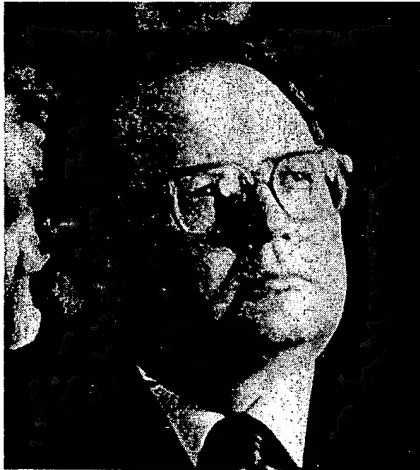
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foreign policies and for ensuring the country's security.
Chairman of the Council of Ministers is the only ex officio member.
participate in the sessions of the Presidential Council.



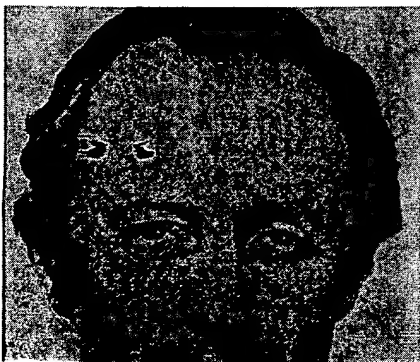
Valeriy Ivanovich Boldin

Chief, General Department, Central
Committee, CPSU, since May 1987
... adviser to Gorbachev 1981-87...
ethnic Russian... born September 1935.



Albert Ernestovich Kauls

Chairman, Adazhi farming cooperative,
since 1983... chairman, Latvian Union
of Agriculture Workers, since April
1989... ethnic Latvian... born October
1938.



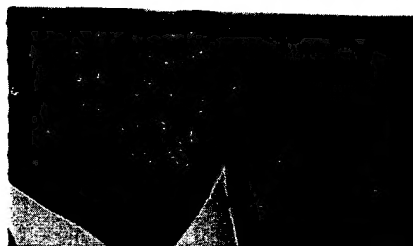


Mikhail Gorbachev
USSR President
General Secretary
1985...member
October 1986
since December
domestic affairs
March 1931

Advisers

Although appar-
advisers provide

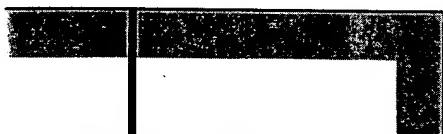
Sergey Fedotkin
Anatoliy
Vadim Vashukov



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Mikhail Gorbachev

President since March 1990...
Secretary, CPSU, since March
member, Politburo, CPSU, since
1980... chairman, RSFSR Bureau,
since 1989... responsible for
domestic and foreign policies... born



to the President

As they are not part of the formal
staff, the President's personal
secretaries help him with close policy support.

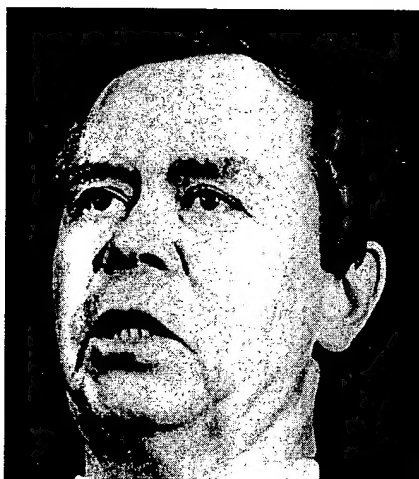
Alexander Akhromeyev
Dmitry Fedorovich Dobrynin
Vladimir Vladimirovich Zagladin



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Vladimir Aleksandrovich Kryuchkov

Chairman, Committee for State Security
(KGB), since October 1988... member,
Politburo, CPSU, since September 1989
... KGB veteran... ethnic Russian...
born February 1924.



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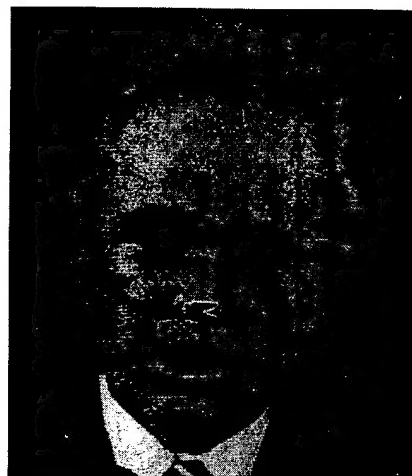
Valentin Grigor'yevich Rasputin

Writer... secretary, Union of Writers...
not member of CPSU... ethnic Russian
... born March 1937.



Yuriy Dmitriyevich Maslyukov

Chairman, State Planning Committee
(Gosplan), since February 1988...
member, Politburo, CPSU, since
September 1989... first deputy
chairman, Council of Ministers, since
February 1988... ethnic Russian... born
September 1937.



Grigoriy Ivanovich Revenko

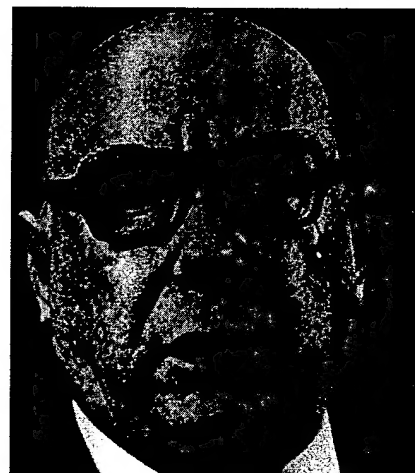
Member, Central Committee, CPSU,
since March 1986... former first
secretary, Kiev Oblast Party Committee
(Ukraine), November 1985-2 April
1990... ethnic Ukrainian... born April
1936.



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Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze

Minister of Foreign Affairs since July
1985... member, Politburo, CPSU,
since July 1985... ethnic Georgian...
born January 1928.



Aleksandr Nikolayevich Yakovlev

Chairman, International Policy
Commission, Central Committee,
CPSU, since September 1988...
member, Politburo, CPSU, since June
1987... secretary, Central Committee,
CPSU, since March 1986... ethnic
Russian... born December 1923.

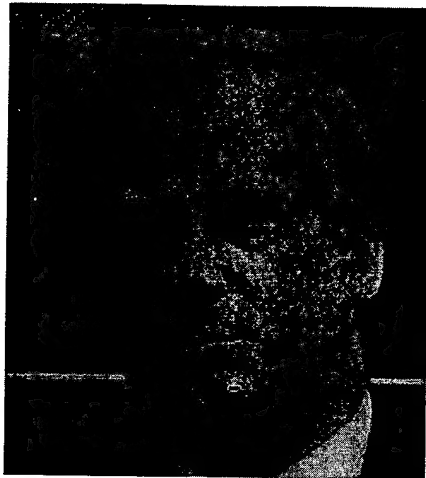
* On 10 April 1990 President Gorbachev expressed his intention to eventually add 1



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Yuriy Andreyevich Osipyan

Vice President, USSR Academy of Sciences, since October 1988. . . director, Solid State Physics Institute, since 1973. . . ethnic Armenian. . . born February 1931.



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Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov

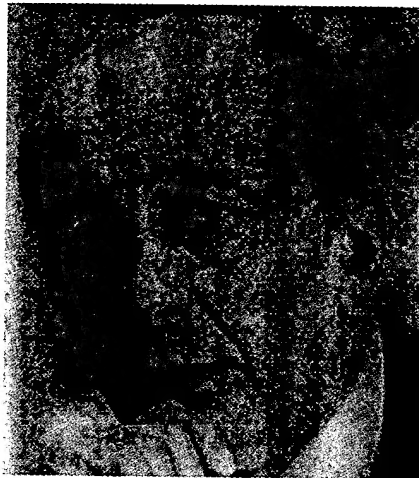
Chairman, Council of Ministers, since September 1985. . . member, Politburo, CPSU, since April 1985. . . ethnic Russian. . . born September 1929.



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Yevgeniy Maksimovich Primakov

Candidate member, Politburo, CPSU, since September 1989. . . former director, Institute of World Economy and International Relations. . . ethnic Russian. . . born October 1929.



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Stanislav Sergeyevich Shatalin

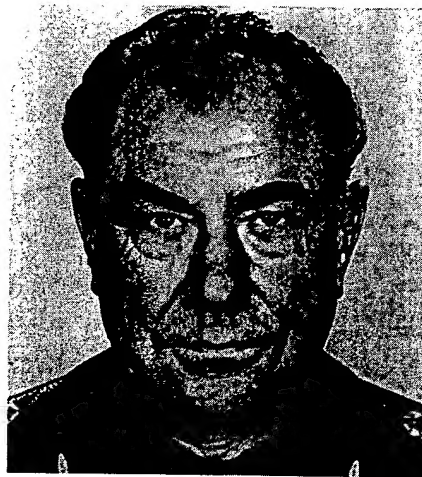
Acting academician secretary, Economics Department, USSR Academy of Sciences, since early 1990. . . ethnic Russian. . . born August 1934.



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Veniamin Aleksandrovich Yarin

Deputy, USSR Supreme Soviet, since May 1989. . . co-chairman, United Russian Workers' Front. . . co-chairman, Rossiya (voluntary, public club of deputies). . . operator, metallurgical combine. . . ethnic Russian. . . born February 1940.



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Dmitriy Timofeyevich Yazov

Minister of Defense since May 1987. . . Marshal of the Soviet Union since late April 1990. . . candidate member, Politburo, CPSU, since June 1987. . . senior military commander 1967-87. . . ethnic Russian. . . born November 1923.

ers to the USSR Presidential Council.

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